

Subject: INFO-HAMS Digest V89 #889
To: INFO-HAMS@WSMR-SIMTEL20.ARMY.MIL

INFO-HAMS Digest Thu, 16 Nov 89 Volume 89 : Issue 889

Today's Topics:

 42mHz (2 msgs)
 airport security
 AR on TV
 HW-2036A Harmonics???
 Military aircraft callsigns...Eugene Balinski
 Question about Ace Communications i

Date: 13 Nov 89 22:07:08 GMT
From: hpda!hpcuhb!hp-ses!hpcc01!hpccc!hpl-opus!hpnmdla!hpsad!
mikew@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Mike Weihman)
Subject: 42mHz

> From: jls@itivax.iti.org (Janet L. Smith):
>
> For the past 4 days I have been picking up police transmissions on
> 42mHz from California. Pretty good skip, I would say, considering I
> am in Michigan. I have caught 18 different frequencies in the 42
> mHz range from 10:00 am EST - 2:00 pm EST. The locations that have
> been given range from San Diego to Sacramento/Oakland/Berkeley.
> My question is - is the 42 mHz range a statewide Sheriff frequency
> for California? There have been no license designations given
> (i.e. KMG367, etc). Can anyone give me some information about
> this? I have been having a great time listing to these
> transmissions! I have a Bearcat 800XLT with an outside antenna.
> Thanks
> Janet L. Smith jls@itivax.iti.org
> Industrial Technology Institute
>

The CHP (California Highway Patrol) operate on a bunch of frequencies
in the 42 MHz area, throughout their operating regions in California.
I can post specifics if you'd like.

--Not a bad DX catch, BTW.

Mike Weihman n1dje: RACES, CDF-VIP
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Date: 14 Nov 89 17:25:30 GMT
From: hpda!hpcuhb!hp-ses!hpcc01!hpccc!hpl-opus!hpnmdla!glenne@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU
(Glenn Elmore)
Subject: 42mHz

That's good DX all right but the bands have been very good.
Locals here in Northern California have been working South Africa
on 6 meters recently.

Glenn Elmore -N6GN-

N6GN @ K3MC
glenn@n6gn.ampr.org
glenne@nmd.hpcom

Date: 16 Nov 89 03:46:01 GMT
From: amdcad!diablo!phil@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Phil Ngai)
Subject: airport security

>You might be interested that my boss, who takes domestic flights quite
>frequently, ALWAYS makes outgoing calls on his RS portable cellular phone
>WHILE AIRBORNE.. and continues to do so, since to my knowledge he has never
>been hassled.

I was on an America West flight just yesterday where a guy was using
his cellular phone while we were sitting on the taxiway. I pointed out
the prohibition in the safety manual in the back of the seat to the
flight attendant and she shut him down.

Maybe most people don't know about the hazard but that's no reason not
to educate the people you come in contact with.

--
Phil Ngai, phil@diablo.amd.com {uunet,decwrl,ucbvax}!amdcad!phil
Come witness the failure of democracy in California!

Date: 14 Nov 89 16:57:19 GMT
From: cadnetix.COM!cadnetix!rusty@uunet.uu.net (Rusty Carruth)
Subject: AR on TV

In article <264@ssc.UUCP> tad@ssc.UUCP (Tad Cook) writes:

>...
>I spotted this older gentleman thumbing through a copy of "Tune in
>the World"....
>
>and he looked up....it was Walter Cronkite!
>
>I understand he is now KB2GSD.

Hi, Tad! Well, a 'quick' grep (can a grep of 46 meg EVER be called
quick? :-)) of the callsign database turned up the following 3 entries:

```
KB2GSD|CRONKITE|JR|WALTER|L|16309|88355|98354|519 E 84TH ST|NEW YORK|NY|  
10028|*|*|*|N|||*  
WA6MIT|CRONKITE||MICHAEL|O|46073|87139|97139|1250 N HUXFORD LN|ANAHEIM|  
CA|92807|*|*|*|T|||*  
KA7FPJ|CRONKITE||PAUL|J|62259|84174|94173|10424 NE 194TH|BOTHELL|WA|98011|  
*|*|*|N|||*
```

So, it looks like Walter C. may have gotten his license in 1988, and he
is a novice. (Hmm, whats the chance of his showing up on the un-net? :-))

Anybody still have last years database handy and want to see if Mr C's
entry is the same as last year?

(I hope everybody who wanted a copy this year has gotten in touch with
me! Unfortunately, I know they have not....)

---Join the usenet un-net, 28.410 and/or 28.390(+/-) 1600Z to 1700Z saturdays!
Rusty Carruth. Radio: N7IKQ ^^ or later :-)
DOMAIN: rusty@cadnetix.com UUCP:{uunet,boulder}!cadnetix!rusty
home: POB. 461, Lafayette CO 80026

Date: 13 Nov 89 16:40:57 GMT
From: hpda!hpcuhb!hp-ses!hpcc01!hpccc!lkraft@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Lyle Kraft)
Subject: HW-2036A Harmonics???

johnr@videovax.tv.tek.com (John Reynolds) writes:

>
> I built a Heathkit HW-2036A (2m synthesized rig) about 10 years ago. It's
> always worked fine as far as I could tell... However, last week I looked
> at its output on a Tek 2710 spectrum analyzer and was dismayed to see that
> the 2nd harmonic (around 290 MHz) was only down about 20 db from the
> carrier.
>

There was a mod. to minimize the 2nd harmonic. It consisted of
placing a series-tuned trap across the antenna terminals. It was
made by cutting the leads of a small value SM capacitor (I don't
remember the value) to a certain length. The assembly was installed
between the PA board and the heatsink.

> The higher harmonics were also right up there falling off with
> what appeared to be a $\sin(x)/x$ shape. I got out the Heathkit manual and
> retweaked the final amp, but nothing I did significantly reduced the
> harmonics. The specs in the manual say harmonics and spurs are -60dB.
>
> Is this radio broken or are all HW-2036A rigs like this?
>

This sounds pretty unusual. I'm tempted to say that some part(s)
is missing/broken in either the exciter section or PA section.
It's also possible that things are way out of tune.

> The design of the output filter looks somewhat cheesy... That is, the coils
> just mount on the circuit board with no real shielding. It looks like high
> frequency components would couple right through to the output (which they
> apparently do in my radio!).
>
> Has anyone else looked at a HW-2036A on a spectrum analyzer? Any comments
> or suggestions appreciated.
>

Outside of doing the obvious things like checking all solder joints,
etc., and since you have access to a spectrum analyzer, look at the
excitation going into the PA. It should be relatively clean but not
perfect (the PA section adds additional filtering). If that
signal looks noisy, the problem is further back.

> 73 and Good DX,
>
> John Reynolds NZ7J
> Tektronix TV Division
> Beaverton, Oregon
>

Lyle "Heathkit repair tech in a former life" Kraft
AA6LK

Date: 15 Nov 89 17:47:47 GMT
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!samsung!cg-atla!raybed2!ewb@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu
(EUGENE BALINSKI)
Subject: Military aircraft callsigns...Eugene Balinski

In article <8911132339.AA08957@ti.com>, dube@cpdvax.csc.ti.com (DUBE TODD) writes:
> My question is: Why would you be interested in what the call signs are or
> represent?
>
> "Knowledge improperly used is worse than ignorance"
>
> 73,
> Dube Todd, N5PDK

Why am I interested ? Because it is one part of the hobby (the hobby being radio in general) that I enjoy. There are many people who enjoy scanning the mil aircraft band or the FBI or the CIA or the DEA etc. If you were to do this professionally for some government agency you would be known as a "spook". Ther are MANY amateur spooks as can be exemplified by Pop Comm and Monitoring Times Mag. If you watch any of the "utility" columns you will see this type of information (mil callsigns, frequencies, etc) published on a regular basis. There have been many books published on this and other spook subjects. What do you think this "havana moon" stuff is all about ?? Their area of spooking is the number stations. The bottom line is.... LIGHTEN UP ! No one is betraying the security of the United States. It's all just another part of this facinating hobby. You should give it a try. You never know when you will hear a flight of F-16's practicing in a Military Operating Area (MOA) or couple of ANG A-10s refueling.

73
Gene Balinski

Date: 16 Nov 89 10:49:07 GMT
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!uwm.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!
uxa.cso.uiuc.edu!jlt00316@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu
Subject: Question about Ace Communications i

I have an AOR AR-900 and we can say that the thing is less than perfect. Mind you, it does a good job and has lots of features. Here is a list of complaints. I think that this scanner was designed quickly or not tested very well.

-- pauses when scanning locked out channels. If I am scanning bank A and have channels 11-20 locked out, the scanner gets to 10 and then pauses a while

before going back to 1. It may take the same amount of time to scan a bank no matter how many channels you're actually looking at.

-- sometimes the delay doesn't work right. It will keep going right after the carrier drops. And sometimes it delays several seconds. It's unpredictable.

-- On mine, memory channel A1 (first one in bank A) doesn't work as well as others. i.e. if I have the same freq. in 2 memories, it will skip A1 but catch the other. If I open the squelch more, it will catch either.

-- Fairly picky about squelch. Sometimes a memory will click as it's scanning. This means that there is a station on that channel but the squelch didn't open. If you open the squelch more, it will stop.

-- The audio is very quiet. Without mods, you cannot put it on your belt outside and expect to hear what's going on.

But, there are many nice features. 5 sets of upper and lower band scan limits instead of 1 set like most radios. 800 MHz, of course. It does a good job and isn't too expensive, but is not always as predicatble as it should be.

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End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #889
